

Message Text

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12

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 NSC-05 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7463

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, VE

SUBJECT: SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT ON NARCOTICS CONTROL

REF: STATE 12151; CARACAS 9895

1. (C) DURING THE FIRST HALF OF FY 1975 THERE WERE NO ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS MADE WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF VENEZUELA UNDER THE NARCOTICS APPROPRIATIONS OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT.

(B) TOTAL OBLIGATIONS AND EXPENDITURES DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD AMOUNTED TO \$27,330. THIS AMOUNT INCLUDED \$27,100 FOR PERSONNEL AND \$230 FOR TRAINING (NOT CENTRALLY FUNDED).

(C) THERE WERE NO NEW OBLIGATIONS OR PROVISIONS OF EQUIPMENT TO THE GOV.

(D) SUPPORT COSTS WERE \$700.

(E) FORTY-SEVEN (47) VENEZUELAN POLICE CADETS WERE TRAINED IN-COUNTRY BY THE EMBASSY'S AID NARCOTICS ADVISER USING SECTION 482 FUNDS.

(F) THE NUMBER OF U.S. PERSONNEL AT THIS EMBASSY AS OF 12/31/74 DEVOTING MORE THAN 50 PERCENT OF THEIR TIME TO NARCOTICS CONTROL ACTIVITIES, BY AGENCY, WAS AS FOLLOWS: DEA - 15; AID -2.

2. (A) THE MOST SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT IN THE EMBASSY'S NARCOTICS CONTROL ACTIVITIES DURING THE FIRST HALF OF FY 1975 WAS THE RELOCATION

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OF DEA SOUTH AMERICAN REGIONAL OFFICE FROM BUENOS AIRES

TO CARACAS.

(B) ABUSE. THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE FROM THAT REPORTED PREVIOUSLY (CARACAS 9895).

(C) PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING. NO NEW INFORMATION.

(D) TRAFFICKING TRENDS. VENEZUELA'S ROLE CONTINUES TO BE THAT OF A TRANS-SHIPMENT POINT FOR COCAINE AND POSSIBLY SOME HEROIN. THE SOURCES OF THESE DRUGS ARE COLOMBIA AND ECUADOR IN THE CASE OF COCAINE AND EUROPE IN THE CASE OF HEROIN.

(E) REGIONAL AND MULTILATERAL COOPERATION. DURING THE SECOND QUARTER OF FY 1975 VENEZUELA'S EX-FISCAL GENERAL (GOV OFFICIAL WHO PERFORMS CERTAIN FUNCTIONS OF AN ATTORNEY GENERAL) WHO ACTS IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO VENEZUELA'S COMMISSION AGAINST DRUG ABUSE, HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFICIALS IN ENGLAND, SPAIN, BELGIUM, ITALY, PERU, AND BOLIVIA REGARDING EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION HAVING TO DO WITH NARCOTICS CONTROL. THERE HAVE BEEN NO ADDITIONAL BILATERAL CONTACTS BETWEEN THE GOV AND NETHERLANDS ANTILLES OFFICIALS OF WHICH THE EMBASSY IS AWARE.

(F) EMBASSY AND HOST GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES. A U.S. BUREAU OF CUSTOMS OFFICER MET WITH GOV CUSTOMS OFFICIALS IN CARACAS IN DECEMBER 1974 AS PART OF THE GROUNDWORK FOR A CUSTOMS SEMINAR TO BE HELD IN VENEZUELA IN MARCH 1975. THE EMBASSY'S NARCOTICS ADVISER CONTINUED MEETING WITH THE COMMISSION AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ESTABLISHED CONTACT WITH SEVERAL EXPERTS IN THE FIELDS OF TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION. MANUEL MOLINA GASPERI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE VENEZUELAN TECHNICA JUDICIAL POLICE, PARTICIPATED IN EXECUTIVE-LEVEL TRAINING WITH DEA IN THE U.S. IN OCTOBER 1974.

(G) ENFORCEMENT. THE NATIONAL ENFORCEMENT EFFORT REMAINED AT ABOUT THE SAME LEVEL DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD. SEIZURES BY THE VENEZUELAN ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES FROM JULY TO DEC. 1974 TOTALLED 3.8 KILOS OF COCAINE AND 861 KILOS OF MARIHUANA. THE CARACAS DEA DISTRICT OFFICE COOPERATED WITH THE TECHNICAL JUDICIAL POLICE IN THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF SEVERAL CASES.

(H) INCOME SUBSTITUTION. NOT APPLICABLE.

(I) TREATMENT/REHABILITATION/EDUCATION. THE KEY VENEZUELAN INSTITUTION IN THIS FIELD IS THE GOVERNMENT-SUPPORTED FUNDACION PARA EDUCACION Y EXTENSION (FEDEX), WHICH OPERATES THREE CENTERS. IN ADDITION, ANOTHER CENTER OPERATES UNDER THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FOUR OTHER CENTERS OPERATE UNDER PRIVATE AUSPICES. SEE CARACAS TELEGRAM ,9. 16 FOR A THOROUGH SURVEY OF THESE AGENCIES.

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3. FY 1976 PROGRAM SUBMISSION ADEQUATELY DESCRIBES PROJECT OBJECTIVES, PROGRESS TO DATE AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR FY 1976.
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